



Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *107th* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2002

Senate

NATIONAL LABORATORIES PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I thank the Senator.

With the combined heat and power facilities, we have the ability to generate energy almost twice as efficiently as we generate it from traditional utilities, traditional generating plants. With combined heat and power facilities, we see emissions that are roughly half those of traditional powerplants.

The administration's national energy plan envisions a doubling and relies on combined heat and power facilities in this country because they are so energy efficient and also environmentally friendly.

The downside, unfortunately, is that, inadvertently, the language of this bill before us takes away the ability for FERC to help ensure that these combined heat and power facilities have the opportunity to sell power at reasonable prices into the grid and to buy power, if and when they need to buy it, at reasonable prices.

I think all of us would agree that to have the ability to create more facilities that are

twice as energy efficient as traditional generating facilities and produce half the emissions is a good thing. That is why the administration has offered doubling these facilities in their plan.

Unfortunately, if we leave the language as it is in the bill, we are going to find that the potential that is embodied in the generating capability of the combined heat and power facilities will not be realized. Nobody is interested in utilities having to sell electricity at rates that are above market. We want to simply make sure that a combined heat and power facility, which is twice as energy efficient, and twice as environmentally friendly, has the opportunity to expand. That is what we seek to do here.

With that in mind, I ask our colleagues to oppose the motion to table.

Again, I express my thanks to the Senator from Maine, Ms. Collins, for joining me and a number of colleagues in offering this amendment today.